



**NORTH SHROPSHIRE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1967

NORTH SHROPSHIRE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1967

CHAIRMAN: MR. F. WYCHERLEY.
VICE-CHAIRMAN: MR. J.S. STOKES.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:

CHAIRMAN: MR. T. JONES.
VICE-CHAIRMAN: MR. H. HUXLEY.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL.

MR. C.G. CLAYTON.

MRS. E. CLAYTON-JONES.

MR. T. ROY DAVIES.

MR. D.E.D. JONES.

DR. P. KING.

MR. R. LEE.

MAJOR H. TURNER.

MR. G.G. WYATT.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF:

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

A.N. O'BRIEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

W.M. LAMBERTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector.

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

R.F.M. SAUNDERS, Cert.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS:

D.W. PRITCHARD, F.R.S.H.
Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector.

D. PEARCE, Cert.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Certificated Meat and Foods Inspector.

W. H. PURSLOW.

MEAT INSPECTORS:

J.H. BELLAMY, A.R.S.H.

D.W. RALPHS, A.R.S.H.

CLERICAL STAFF:

MISS J. WHEELER.

MRS. R.A. NARBURGH.

CONTENTS

	Page
Foreword by Medical Officer of Health.....	4, 5
Ambulance Service	17
Blood Transfusion	15
Clinics	14, 15, 16
Communicable Diseases	9
Dental Sessions	16
Disabled Persons Employments Act, 1944	18
General Statistics	6
Health Education	18
Home Help Services	17
Hospitals	14
Infectious Diseases in Animals	9
Laboratory Facilities	15
Mental Health Service	16
Mass Miniature Radiography Survey	15
National Assistance Act 1948	18
National Health Services Act, 1946	14
Pre-Employment Medical Examinations	18
Vaccination and Immunisation	17
Yellow Fever	17
Vital Statistics	6,7,8
Welfare Foods	16

TABLES

Cancer	13
Communicable Diseases	9
Deaths, Causes of	10, 11
Infant Mortality	12
Neo-Natal Mortality	13
Tuberculosis	13
Vital Statistics	6

To The Chairman and Members of the North Shropshire Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Report for 1967. The North Shropshire Rural District Council was formed in April, 1967 by an amalgamation of the five constituent districts and the Annual Report relates to the whole area and covers the entire year.

Following the resignation in March 1967 of Dr. S. Smith to take up another appointment, the work of the Public Health Department was continued, under the wise guidance of the Chief Public Health Inspector, by the Staff of the department, assisted when necessary by members of the Staff of the County Medical Officer of Health.

1967 saw the beginning of the widespread and tragic outbreak of Foot & Mouth Disease, which, at the time of writing this foreword, in May 1968, still continues to take its toll. The loss to a rural community such as this, is immeasurable and as a further complication a great deal of the necessary and routine tasks of the Public Health Department have been held up. In spite of these added difficulties, the work of the Public Health Inspectors and Meat Inspectors has been carried out cheerfully and competently.

It is the duty of a Medical Officer of Health to draw to the attention of the Council factors in the environment which are likely to be harmful to the health of the community. In this respect, reference must be made to the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector which indicates the two main areas in which vigorous action is needed, viz:- in the Urban areas within the North Shropshire Rural District, the need for the clearance, without further delay, of old, unfit properties and the improvement of others; and in the Rural Parishes the need for sewerage and sewage disposal facilities and the provision of safe water supplies. It is instructive to note that of 107 Bacteriological analyses of water samples taken from private sources, i.e. boreholes and wells, more than 66% proved to be unsatisfactory.

In studying the Vital Statistics for the whole area it can be said that the health of the Community compares favourably with National Standards. Live births totalled 507, the rate being 16.1%, National 17.2%. Deaths totalled 369. The total population decreased by 760, due in part to the loss of some parishes to Atcham R.D.

Stillbirths were 9, 17% and National 14.8%. Illegitimate Births 38, and deaths of Illegitimate Infants in the first year 1, and reference has been made in that section of the report to the added but often preventable risks suffered by these infants. Infant Mortality Rate 18%, often taken as an index of the health of a community, compares favourably with the National figure of 18.3%.

Again the commonest causes of death are to be found in that group of diseases affecting the heart and its blood vessels and the central nervous system. Malignant growths, especially of the lung and bronchus again show an increase. In our present state of knowledge there are sufficient indications to show that some at least of these deaths are due to factors which are preventable.

Notifications of Infectious Disease continue to show, to a limited extent, the pattern of diseases in the Community especially among children; and I should like to thank my colleagues in General Practice for their co-operation in this and other fields of Public Health.

The excellent work performed by the Public Health Inspectors is clearly demonstrated in the report on sanitary circumstances in the Rural District and here it is not out of place to record the very real contribution of the office staff to the work of the Department as a whole.

Between individuals and departments a great deal of co-operation is necessary to ensure the smooth running of services offered to the public and it is very satisfying that such co-operation exists on a generous scale within the Public Health Department, and with other Departments of the North Shropshire Rural District Council, and the Members of the Council; with neighbouring Local Authorities and the County Council.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

A.N. O'BRIEN

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1967

The following are the general statistics for the area:-

Area in Acres	111,845
Population figure given by the Registrar General	31,420
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book on 1st April, 1967	9,885
Rateable Value 1st April, 1967	£930,359
Sum represented by a penny rate 1967/68	£3,639

VITAL STATISTICS, 1967

Live Births	-	Number	507
		Rate per 1,000 Population	16.1
Illegitimate Live Births		Number	38
		% of Total Live Births	7.5
Stillbirths	-	Number	9
		Rate per 1,000 of Total Live and Still Births	17
Total Live and Still Births			516
Infant Deaths	-	Number	9
		Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Live Births	18
Legitimate Infant Deaths		Rate per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	17.1
Illegitimate Infant Deaths		Rate per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	26.3
Neonatal Mortality Rate (Per 1,000 Live Births)		i.e. Deaths of Infants in First 4 weeks of life.	7.9
Perinatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths)		i.e. Deaths of Infants in first week of Life and Still- Births.	25
Maternal Mortality	-	Number	0
		Rate per 1,000 total Live and Stillbirths.	0

POPULATION 1967

Estimated Mid Year Population

1965 31,970
1966 32,180
1967 31,420 - a difference of 760.

The excess of Births over Deaths in the Rural District totalled 138.

BIRTHS 1967

(a) LIVE BIRTHS. There were 244 Male
 263 Female

Livebirths in 1967 giving a total of 507 as compared with 264 Male, 261 Female - a total of 525 for 1966.

The Live Birth Rate per 1,000 Population 16.1

Corrected Birth Rate 17.2

Live Birth Rate for England and Wales 17.2

(b) STILL BIRTHS. The number of Still Births was lower than in 1966.

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births was 17 compared with the Still Birth Rate for England and Wales of 14.8.

	1965	1966	1967
Number of Still Births	8	10	9
Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	14.8	18.7	17

(c) ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

Number of Illegitimate Births Live and Stillborn

1965	1966	1967
24	26	38

giving a rate of 7.5% of all births during the year,

compared with 5% in 1966

4.5% in 1965

8.4% of all Births in England and Wales were illegitimate in 1967.

It is worth recording the difference in the mortality rate of Legitimate Infants 17.1 per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births and of Illegitimate Infants 26.3 per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births. Such disparity gives rise to disquieting thoughts as to the reasons why children born out of wedlock have a poorer chance of survival despite the many sources of help now available to unmarried mothers.

DEATHS 1967

(a) ALL CAUSES

The number of deaths registered in the Rural District during the year was 369, a decrease of 52 on the 1966 figure.

	<u>Number of Deaths</u>			<u>Death Rate</u> <u>per 1,000 Pop.</u>	<u>Corrected Death</u> <u>Rate</u>
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>		
1967	189	180	369	11.7	10.6
1966	193	228	421	13.1	

Among the commonest causes of death (see Table II) Coronary Disease and Angina, Circulatory Disease, Other Heart Disease and Vascular Lesions of the Central Nervous System took their heavy annual toll. The figures for deaths due to certain types of Cancer also reveal a loss of life, which in our present state of knowledge, may to some extent be preventable. Factors in our environment, known to be harmful, are still disregarded by the well informed. Smoking is associated with disease of the respiratory and circulatory systems but the public at large prefer to ignore the evidence.

In the Rural District deaths from Cancer of the Lung and Bronchus showed an increase over the preceeding year.

<u>1966</u>		<u>1967</u>	
<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
8	1	12	1

(b) INFANT MORTALITY

There were 9 deaths of Infants during their first year of life; three less than the total of 12 for 1966.

Infant Mortality Rate for the Rural District was 18 per 1,000 Live Births and for England and Wales 18.3 per 1,000 Live Births.

Causes of deaths in this age group include Congenital malformations, Pneumonia and certain conditions classified as Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases, which include Prematurity.

See Tables III & IV.

(c) MATERNAL MORTALITY

No deaths attributable to Childbirth, Pregnancy or Abortion have been recorded during the year.

TABLE I

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES 1967

Notifications of the following Notifiable Diseases were received as follows:-

<u>Notifiable Disease</u>	<u>Total</u>
Whooping Cough	6
Measles	161
Pneumonia	-
Scarlet Fever	5
Dysentery	2
Food Poisoning	1
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Meningococcal Infections	2
Respiratory Tuberculosis	2
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	-
Erysipelas	-
Acute Encephalitis	-
Paratyphoid "B"	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN ANIMALS

During 1967 Tuberculosis was reported in cattle on one farm, but no cases of human infection were traced to this outbreak.

In October began the tragic and widespread epidemic of Foot & Mouth Disease which at the time of writing is still present in the Rural District. Caused by a particularly virulent strain of virus, the disease spread rapidly despite all precautions. Foot & Mouth Disease occurs amongst ungulates and has a low infectivity for man, although cases of human infection have been reported in the literature.

TABLE II - CAUSES OF DEATH 1967

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS									
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over.	
Tuberculosis Respiratory	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others forms of Tuberculosis	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Whooping Cough	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus....	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	F	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diabetes	F	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System....	M	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coronary Disease, Angina.....	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	43	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	M	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

INFANT MORTALITY - TABLE III

Under 1 day M F	1 day & under 7 days M F	7 days & under 1 month M F	1 month & under 3 months M F	3 months & under 6 months M F	6 months & under 9 months M F	9 months to 12 months M F	Total M F	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births
1 2	- 1	- -	2 1	- 2	- -	- -	3 6	18

TABLE IV. - NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 month	Total Infant Deaths	Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births
4	9	7.9

England and Wales 12.5 per 1,000 Live Births.

TABLE V. - CANCER

Deaths		Total	Rate per 1,000 Population
M	F		
34	29	63	2.0

TABLE VI - TUBERCULOSIS

NOTIFICATIONS DURING 1967.

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Civilian Cases	1	1	-	-	1	1
Service Cases	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	1	-	-	1	1
Cured	6	2	2	-	8	2
Left district	-	1	-	1	-	2
Deaths	1	1	-	-	1	1

Number of cases on Register at 31st December, 1967

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
43	28	16	11	59	39

Number of Primary Notifications in 1967: 2.

THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1946

Hospital and Consultant Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board; the Salop County Council as Local Health Authority, is responsible for certain personal health services, and the General Practitioner Services continue to give constant care in all stages of ill health. The health of the Community depends upon the closest co-operation of these three partners in what might be described as a group practice which exists for the benefit of the individual and the Community.

HOSPITALS AND CLINICS

Hospitals in the District:-

Deermoss Hospital, Whitchurch.

Whitchurch Cottage Hospital.

Ellesmere Cottage Hospital.

Many patients from North Shropshire are treated outside the District in general hospitals and hospitals for special disorders such as:-

The R.S.I., Shrewsbury.

Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury.

Cross Houses Hospital.

Eye, Ear & Throat Hospital, Shrewsbury.

The Robert Jones & Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital,
Oswestry.

Shelton Hospital, Shrewsbury.

Oswestry & District Hospital.

These hospitals are administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board in accordance with ^{the} National Health Service Act, 1946.

In addition, the Maelor General Hospital and the War Memorial Hospital, both in Wrexham, accept patients from the North Shropshire Rural District. These hospitals are administered by the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board.

CLINICS

TUBERCULOSIS

The Chest Physician attends at -

WHITCHURCH, WELFARE CLINIC, DEERMOSS LANE, the first Friday in each month from 11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

COPTHORNE HOSPITAL, every Tuesday from 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m.

and 1.45 p.m. to 4.00 p.m., every Wednesday 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon and Thursday and Friday afternoon from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Facilities for Treatment - Clinics.

SHREWSBURY, No.1 BELMONT. MEN: Tuesdays and Fridays 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

WOMEN: Mondays, 3.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Thursdays 5.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

These are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury, the Director being Dr. Alun Jones. This service originally instituted on an emergency basis, is now a permanent unit at the Royal Salop Infirmary, undertaking work for Local Authorities free of charge in so far as it is relevant to diagnosis. This service is invaluable particularly in the bacteriological examination of food samples in cases of suspected food poisoning.

MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY

A regular visit was paid by the Unit to Whitchurch on the first Friday in every month.

Referrals to the Mass Miniature Radiography Service come from General Practitioners and also as part of surveys undertaken among groups of persons with special risks, e.g. certain vulnerable occupations and age groups that are most susceptible. Conditions discovered by this technique include tuberculosis, new growths and cardio-vascular lesions.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

Administered by the Regional Hospital Boards this Service provides laboratory studies and is responsible for collecting blood from suitable donors. Public sessions were held for this purpose at Whitchurch, Wem, Ellesmere and Shawbury.

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY CLINICS

Under the National Health Service Act of 1946, the Salop County Council, as the Local Health Authority, became responsible for the administration of the following services, amongst others, within the County:-

Care of Mothers and Young Children:

BASCHURCH - Secondary Modern School

Child Health	}	First Tuesday in the month 2.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
and Immunisation		

Medical Officer in attendance.

ELLESMERE - Brownlow Road

* Ante-Natal -) First, third and fifth Tuesdays in the month
) 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Child Health - Tuesdays 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

* Immunisation - First Tuesday in the month 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

* Medical Officer in attendance first and third Tuesday afternoon in the month, and on the fifth afternoon in the month when there is a fifth Tuesday.

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY CLINICS Cont'd

SHAWBURY - Parish Hall

Child Health)
and) Tuesdays 2.00 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Immunisation)

Medical Officer in attendance on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

WEM - The Shrubbery

Child Health)
and) Thursdays - 10.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. and
Immunisation) 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Medical Officer in attendance on the second and fourth Thursday afternoons each month.

WHITCHURCH - Deermoss Lane

Ante-Natal) Tuesdays - 2.15 p.m. - 4.15 p.m.
) Midwife and Health Visitor in attendance.

Child Health)
and) Thursdays - 1.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
* Immunisation)

≡ Medical Officer in attendance on the first and third Thursdays of the month.

Chest Clinics and Psychiatric Out-patients Clinics are held regularly at the Whitchurch Child Welfare Clinic. Patients are seen by appointment.

Other special Clinics held here include Speech Therapy, Audiology and Cervical Cytology.

DENTAL SESSIONS

Dental sessions are held regularly at each of the three Local Authority Clinics, at Ellesmere, Wem and Whitchurch, where patients are seen by appointment with the dental officer.

Ellesmere	...	Brownlow Road
Wem	...	The Shrubbery
Whitchurch	...	Deermoss Lane

WELFARE FOODS

Each of the Local Authority Clinics is open at set times for the sale of these foods. Mothers attending the clinics are informed of these times and of any local variation there may be.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Under the Mental Health Act 1959 the County Council provides Training Centres for severely sub-normal children. Part-time classes are held in the Child Welfare Centres at Wem and Whitchurch for children who are unable to benefit from education in school.

HOME HELP SERVICE

During 1967 Home Helps employed in North Shropshire Rural District continued to provide an invaluable service, enabling patients to remain at home who otherwise might have required a hospital bed; by helping mothers during their confinement and by caring for the disabled, and aged infirm.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Salop County Council, as the Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act, make provisions for securing that ambulances and other means of transport are available, where necessary, for the conveyance of persons suffering from illness or mental subnormality and expectant or nursing mothers from places in their area to places in or outside their area.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Vaccination against Whooping Cough, Poliomyelitis, Smallpox and Tuberculosis, as well as immunisation against Diptheria and Tetanus were carried out by General Practitioners, and by Clinic Doctors working in Local Health Authority Clinics and Schools in the area.

The County Medical Officer of Health reports annually on the number of children receiving primary and booster doses of antigens and vaccines.

Children receive 3 injections of a Triple Antigen containing Diptheria, Tetanus and Pertussis, and 3 doses of Oral Polio vaccine at intervals during their first year. This is followed by vaccination against Smallpox during the second year and booster immunisation at the recommended appropriate intervals thereafter.

VACCINATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS - B.C.G.

School children in the age group 12 to 14 years are offered vaccination against Tuberculosis. B.C.G. vaccine is given to those who prove negative to a preliminary skin test - the Mantoux Test; positive reactors are fully investigated by Mass Miniature Radiography or by the Chest Physician where necessary.

YELLOW FEVER

During the year 1960, the County Health Department, Shrewsbury, became a recognised centre for the administration of Yellow Fever vaccine. Sessions are normally held at 3.00 p.m. on the first and third Mondays in the month, or by special appointment in emergency. A charge is made for this service.

PRE-EMPLOYMENT MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

During 1967 a number of examinations of candidates for employment by the Council were carried out by the Medical Officer of Health.

DISABLED PERSONS EMPLOYMENT ACT, 1944

Handicapped school leavers were referred by the School Medical Officers, working at Schools in the District, for appropriate further training.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47

Compulsory removal upon a Magistrate's Order was not undertaken during the year.

HEALTH EDUCATION

"Example is always more efficacious than precept".

Samuel Johnson.

As a continuous function of the Department, Health Education is undertaken by every member of the staff whose work brings them into contact with the public. Attitudes towards social problems are formed by education and education begins with example. Elsewhere in this report, attention has been drawn to the failure of the public to accept and to act upon information about the increase in lung cancer. It is especially difficult to get such information across to young people who are influenced by the example of others. Much can be done by using health education material, visual aids, talks and discussions, but it is the example of well informed people, acting responsibly, which is the **most** effective method of health education.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR
ENDING DECEMBER 31st 1967.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The following Report describes the Sanitary Circumstances of the North Shropshire Rural District during the year 1967. It includes the statistics for the last three months of existence of the five areas which were merged to form the above authority on April 1st 1967.

The amalgamation of five varying authorities has inevitably presented a number of problems which will not be solved immediately. There appears to be a need for slum-clearance and re-development in the three urban areas, while many of the rural parishes urgently require piped water supplies and sewers.

During the last three months of the year the onset of the Foot and Mouth disease epidemic imposed extra duties on the staff.

I am grateful to the Members of the Health Committee and Council for their support during the year, and would like to express my appreciation of the work put in by all Members of the Public Health staff.

W. M. LAMBERTON,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

INDEX

	Page
Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1961	8
Carcases Inspected and Rejected	6
Common Lodging Houses	8
Factories Act, 1961	9
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960	5
Food Poisoning	6
Housing	3,4
Improvement Area	4
Improvement Grants	4
Infectious Diseases	8
Meat Inspection	5,6
Moveable Dwellings	4
Nuisances	8
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	7,8
Pet Animals Act, 1951	8
Petroleum Spirit Licencing	8
Poultry Inspection	5
Refuse Collection and Disposal	4
Rodent Control	4
Sewerage	3
Slaughterhouses	5
Slum Clearance	3
Swimming Baths	3
Unsound Food	6
Water Supply	1,2,3

WATER SUPPLY

Approximately two-thirds of the North Shropshire Rural District is supplied with mains water from public or private sources. While the quantity is generally satisfactory, the quality varies. The remaining third of the properties in the area rely on bores or shallow wells, many of the latter providing water of doubtful purity.

The following parishes are supplied with public mains water of satisfactory quality and quantity:

Baschurch	(West Shropshire Supply)
Cockshutt	(West Shropshire Supply)
Ellesmere Rural	(West Shropshire and Liverpool Corporation Supplies)
Ellesmere Urban	(Liverpool Corporation Supply)
Hordley	(West Shropshire Supply)
Myddle	(West Shropshire Supply)
Petton	(West Shropshire Supply)
Welshampton	(Liverpool Corporation Supply)
Wem Urban	(East Shropshire Supply)
Whitchurch Urban	(East Shropshire Supply)

Parts of the following parishes are supplied with mains water from various public and private sources:

Broughton	(Broughton - West Shropshire Supply Yorton - Hardwick Estate Supply)
Clive	(Clive Village - Meadowfield Farm Supply)
Grinshill	(Grinshill Village - East Shropshire and Hardwick Estate Supplies)
Hadnall	(Hadnall Village - West Shropshire and Hardwick Estate Supplies)
Loppington	(Loppington and Burlton Villages - West Shropshire Supply)
Moreton Corbet	(Bridleway Gate and Preston Brockhurst - East Shropshire Supply)
Prees	(Prees Village, Higher Heath, Lower Heath, Darliston and Fauls Green - East Shropshire Supply)
Shawbury	(Shawbury and Edgebolton Villages - R.A.F. Supply)
Stanton	(Stanton Village - Harcourt Estate Supply)
Wem Rural	(Hamlets of Aston, Barkers Green and Tilley - East Shropshire Supply)
Weston-under-Redcastle	(Weston Heath - East Shropshire Supply)
Whitchurch Rural	(Prees Heath - East Shropshire Supply Ash Village - Duchy of Lancaster Estate Supply)

The following parishes rely on bore and shallow well supplies:

Lee Brockhurst
Whixall.

These parishes are in urgent need of mains water.

WATER SUPPLY (Cont.)

The following bacteriological samples were taken from piped supplies during the year:

		No. of Coliform bacilli per 100 ml.	Faecal coli per 100 ml.
Meadowfield Supply	8.5.67	0	0
Meadowfield Supply	8.5.67	0	0
Meadowfield Supply	8.5.67	0	0
East Shropshire Supply (Wem Urban)	22.5.67	0	0
Hardwick Supply	24.5.67	11	0
Harcourt Supply	24.5.67	50	0
East Shropshire Supply (Tilstock)	30.5.67	0	0
Duchy of Lancaster Supply (Ash)	30.5.67	18+	0
East Shropshire Supply (Higher Heath)	5.6.67	0	0
Duchy of Lancaster Supply (Ash)	5.6.67	9	0
East Shropshire Supply (Prees)	5.6.67	0	0
Hardwick Supply	7.6.67	0	0
East Shropshire Supply (Acton Reynald)	24.5.67	0	0
West Shropshire Supply (Hadnall)	24.5.67	0	0
Duchy of Lancaster Supply (Ash)	19.6.67	0	0
Duchy of Lancaster Supply (Ash)	19.6.67	0	0
Duchy of Lancaster Supply (Ash)	19.6.67	18+	0
Duchy of Lancaster Supply (Ash)	19.6.67	6	0
East Shropshire Supply (Tilstock)	26.6.67	0	0
Duchy of Lancaster Supply (Ash)	3.7.67	0	0
Duchy of Lancaster Supply (Ash)	3.7.67	0	0
East Shropshire Supply (Tilstock)	26.6.67	0	0
East Shropshire Supply (Whitchurch)	26.6.67	0	0
East Shropshire Supply (Weston)	13.12.67	0	0

/Three

WATER SUPPLY (Cont.)

Three satisfactory chemical samples were taken from public mains supplies and one satisfactory chemical sample from a private source. A total of 107 bacteriological samples were taken from private boreholes and wells; of these 36 proved to be satisfactory and 71 unsatisfactory. Where contamination has been discovered the owner of the well has been required to cleanse it and the users advised to boil the water before drinking it.

Special water samples to check plumbo-solvency were taken at Ellesmere, Wem and Whitchurch. No excessive lead was found. No information regarding the fluoride content of the various supplies is available.

SWIMMING BATHS

In the area there is a Council-owned public swimming bath at Whitchurch, and a privately-owned open-air swimming pool at Prees Heath. The open-air swimming pool at the Hawkstone Park Hotel was closed during the year.

The Whitchurch bath is fairly old, but is well maintained and the standards secured are very satisfactory. The water, supplied from the town's mains, is treated by filtration and chlorination, the turn-over period being 4½ hours.

A total of 63 water samples were taken during the year, of which 55 proved to be "highly satisfactory".

The attendances for 1967 were 46,222 as against 40,988 in 1966 - an increase of 5,234. The swimming bath was closed for redecoration in mid-December and will re-open in April, 1968.

The Pool at Prees Heath re-opened in June and was well patronised by the public. Thirty two (32) samples were taken, of which 24 proved to be "highly satisfactory". The School swimming pools in the district are sampled by the County Council, but one satisfactory sample was taken at Wem Grammar School bath.

SEWERAGE

During the year an Oxigest Stablization Plant was installed at the Whitchurch Sewage Works. This is the first of its type to be constructed by a Local Authority in this country and the results obtained have so far been very satisfactory.

While the major part of Ellesmere is adequately sewered, it is proposed to enlarge and improve the Wharf Meadow Works, to do away with two other small sewage works and to take sewage from parts of the rural area.

With the exception of an outlying section, Wem is satisfactorily sewered. The existing works is to be increased in size to deal with the effluent from additional properties now under construction. Sewers at Clive, Grinshill, Shawbury and Loppington were completed during 1967 and tenders are to be invited for a new scheme to serve Ash, Tilstock, Prees Heath, Higher Heath and Fauls. Plans have been prepared for the sewerage of the south-western parishes, and it is hoped that Ministerial consent will be forthcoming.

HOUSING

During the year 62 houses were erected by the Council and a further 8 are in the course of erection. One hundred and fifty (150) houses were built by private enterprise and 88 are under construction.

Slum Clearance

Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	20
Houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	39
Houses made fit	...	...	...	...	...	7

Approximately 800 applicants were on the Housing List at the end of the year.

/Improvement Grants

HOUSING (Cont.)

Improvement Grants

Twenty five (25) applications were approved for Discretionary Grants and 63 for Standard Grants during 1967.

Improvement Area

Formal notices were served in connection with the Egerton Road, Whitchurch Compulsory Improvement Area, during the year. The present position regarding the 56 houses involved is as follows:

Improvements completed	...	...	...	...	14 houses
Grants applied for	...	...	...	...	21 houses
					<hr/>
					35
					<hr/>
Tenant's permission received	...	...	...	...	11 houses
Not required	...	...	...	...	5 houses
Owner-occupier to apply	...	...	...	...	1 house
Change of owner	...	...	...	...	2 houses
Discretionary Grant already approved	...	...	...	...	2 houses
					<hr/>
					21
					<hr/>

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

One hundred and thirty five (135) caravan sites are now licensed. There were no serious contraventions of the terms of licence during the year.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

No major alterations were made to the existing refuse collection and disposal systems after amalgamation. They are:

Ellesmere urban area	-	Weekly, by contract.
Wem urban area	-	Weekly, by direct labour.
Whitchurch urban area	-	Weekly, by direct labour.
Ellesmere rural area	-	Fortnightly, by direct labour.
Wem rural area	-	Fortnightly, by contract.

The drainage at Whitchurch tip was renewed during 1967 and the unofficial dumping ground at Dearnford was filled and fenced off. It is proposed to close the Ellesmere, Grinshill and Northwood tips as soon as possible, leaving only the two large tips at Whitchurch and Sleaf. The Council proposes to obtain an extra vehicle in 1968 in order to arrange for a weekly collection from the larger villages and boarding schools and to take over the Ellesmere urban area from the present contractor.

RODENT CONTROL

This work is carried out by two full-time and one part-time operatives and consists mainly of contract work on farms. No charge is made for treatments to domestic properties.

The onset of foot and mouth disease in October greatly curtailed the work of the staff and much reduced the income from contracts.

Number of premises under Contract (mid-year)	...	...	123
Number of premises inspected	...	...	3,416
Number of premises infested	...	...	1,467
Number of premises treated by Council	...	...	1,467
Number of domestic premises treated (no charge)	...	...	157

/Food Hygiene

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

The following is a summary of the food premises in the area:

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
Bakers	15	15	15	14
Butchers	25	24	25	24
Cafes, Canteens and Restaurants	109	107	109	107
Chemists	7	7	7	7
Confectioners	26	26	-	-
Dairies	7	7	7	7
Fishmongers	5	5	5	5
Fried Fish Shops	9	9	9	9
Greengrocers	10	9	-	-
Grocers	98	98	93	90
Licensed Premises	90	90	90	90

(i) Number of premises.

(ii) Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16.
(Provision of wash-basin with hot and cold water)

(iii) Number of premises to which Regulation 19 applies.
(Provision of sink with hot and cold water)

(iv) Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19.

One thousand and forty six (1,046 visits were made to food premises during 1967, and 149 informal notices were served.

POULTRY INSPECTION

There are 3 poultry slaughtering establishments in the area and approximately 38,000 birds (mainly hens but some broilers, capons and turkeys, ducks and geese) were processed during 1967. About 10% of the birds were rejected as unfit for human consumption - 1,900 lbs. weight approximately.

Sixty one (61) visits were made during the year.

MEAT INSPECTION AND SLAUGHTERHOUSES

In the district there is one large factory abattoir, one public abattoir and two small private slaughterhouses.

Two full-time Meat Inspectors are employed and 100% inspection of carcasses and offal is carried out. Overtime on Saturdays and occasionally Sundays is shared between all members of the staff who are qualified to inspect meat.

From October the throughput of the two larger slaughterhouses was reduced by the Foot and Mouth Disease epidemic and the two smaller establishments were closed.

The large factory abattoir is a centre for casualties and tuberculosis reactors from a large part of Shropshire and North Wales, which accounts for the relatively large number of condemnations in the following table:

/Carcases Inspected and Rejected

MEAT INSPECTION

CARCASES INSPECTED AND REJECTED

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	8,836	964	54,092	8,368
Number inspected	8,836	964	54,092	8,368
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCOSIS:				
Whole Carcasses condemned	344	170	272	166
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4,126	63	18,123	3,947
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	50.5%	24.1%	34.0%	49.2%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:				
Whole Carcasses condemned	6	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	15	-	-	63
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.23%	-	-	0.75%
CYSTICERCOSIS ONLY:				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	16	-	-	-
Carcass submitted to treatment by refrigeration	17	-	-	-
Carcasses totally condemned	1	-	-	-

133 tons, 83 lbs. of meat was condemned at slaughterhouses.

UN SOUND FOOD

The following foodstuffs were condemned in shops and warehouses during the year:

Canned Meats	2 cwt. 34 lbs.
Other Canned Foods	1 cwt. 109 lbs.
Fresh Fish	1 cwt. 38 lbs.
Other Foods	25 lbs.

FOOD POISONING

One case of food poisoning was notified during the year. The patient recovered in a few days.

/Offices, Shops and Railway
Premises Act, 1963.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

TABLE A. - Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of premises registered at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	1	59	22
Retail Shops	5	183	77
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	-	4	-
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens	1	44	33
Fuel storage depots	2	2	-
TOTALS	9	292	132

TABLE B. - Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises: 249.

TABLE C. - Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises by Workplace.

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	583
Retail Shops	733
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	20
Catering establishments open to the public	235
Canteens	53
Fuel storage depots	7
TOTAL	1,634
Total Males	648
Total Females	986

/The following

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963 (Cont)

The following contraventions were found:

Section 4	-	Cleanliness	13
Section 6	-	Temperature	6
Section 7	-	Ventilation	3
Section 8	-	Lighting	17
Section 9	-	Sanitary Conveniences	15
Section 10	-	Washing facilities	8
Section 11	-	Supply of drinking water	1
Section 12	-	Clothing Accommodation	3
Section 15	-	Eating Facilities	1
Section 16	-	Floors, passages and stairs	6
Section 17	-	Fencing exposed parts of machinery	1
Section 24	-	First Aid	12
		Others matters	10
TOTAL			<hr/> 96 <hr/>

All the above contraventions were dealt with informally.

Three (3) accidents of a minor nature were reported.

NUISANCES

A total of 739 visits were made by members of the staff to nuisances caused by faulty drainage, housing defects and the spraying of hen manure. Eighty one (81) informal notices were sent to the persons responsible.

Pigeons have again fouled the frontages of buildings in Whitchurch and Ellesmere. A system of trapping which was put into operation at the Whitchurch Town Hall proved relatively successful, some 90 birds being caught. A similar arrangement at Ellesmere Town Hall was a failure as the cage could not be placed on the upper part of the building.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Twelve (12) infectious diseases excepting measles and whooping cough were reported in 1967, and 24 visits were made in connection with them.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

There were two licensed Pet Shops in the area at the end of 1967; two visits were made, and the premises were found to be satisfactory.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Four (4) premises were licensed under this Act during the year and 10 visits were paid to them.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the area.

PETROLEUM SPIRIT LICENSING

Number of licensed premises	...	...	...	...	216
Number of new licences	...	...	...	...	3
Number of visits to premises	...	...	...	...	118

Anxiety has been caused in one area by the accidental spillage of petrol into the new sewer. On two occasions a quantity of petrol found its way into the Whitchurch sewer system. The sewers in the vicinity were flushed out by the Fire Brigade.

One petrol installation of considerable age was voluntarily closed by the owners.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	13	32	6	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	174	137	22	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.	31	15	-	-
TOTAL	218	184	28	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Referred				
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	-	4	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	1	1	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	-	-	-	3	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	13	8	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	18	13	-	9	-

